



**GOVERNOR'S ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**General Meeting – February 26, 2013
10:00 A.M.**

Location: 1700 W. Washington
Second Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, AZ

Members Present: Dr. Craig Barrett, Superintendent John Huppenthal, Tim Carter, Pearl Esau, Glen Hamer, Brad Holaway, Eileen Klein, Jake Logan, Amanda McAdams, Diane McCarthy, Jaime Molera, Colleen Niccum, Kathy Player, Tom Tyree, Sandra Watson, and Dr. Jim Zaharis

Members Absent: Rep. Jeff Dial (ex-officio), Rep. Doris Goodale (ex-officio), Dr. Rufus Glasper, Jacob Moore, Onnie Shekerjian, Merl Waschler, and Sen. Kimberly Yee (ex-officio)

Staff Present: Rebecca Gau, Dale Frost, and Kerry McConnell

1. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Craig Barrett called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and introduced the purposes of the meeting, which was to receive updates on the Arizona Ready Report Card, Legislative Education Bills, receive presentations from ASU and MCESA on their current data systems, and discuss alternate funding for the SLDS system.

Dr. Barrett called for an approval of the January 24, 2012 Council meeting minutes as presented. Diane McCarthy moved for the approval, Tim Carter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Report Card Updates & Changes

Dr. Barrett introduced Kerry McConnell with the Governor's Office of Education Innovation (GOEI). Ms. McConnell reviewed the updated Report Card and changes that have been made since the fall of 2012 and asked Council members for feedback on the new content. Chair Barrett asked when the new Report Card would be going live. Ms. McConnell indicated that there was not a specific date but it could be loaded as soon as tomorrow morning (2/27). Diane McCarthy asked if Ms. McConnell was waiting to get feedback from the Council before going live. Ms. McConnell responded but advising that she is done with the internal review and that she would like to go live and make changes as needed. Tim Carter asked if there was any GOEI staff that was available to present on the Report Card to the Regional Centers. Ms. McConnell advised that she would be available to make presentations to the Regions. Mr. Carter then commented that he thought that the

information from the Report Card should be taken to the Regional Centers and County Superintendents. Dr. Jim Zaharis agreed and advised that he felt there should be a common message from GOEI which all members could then pass on to their constituents. Dr. Zaharis suggested getting the information out on the Report Card on billboards, education and city television channels and make the information known to school boards as well as economic development groups. Kathy Player asked if there were ways to drill down on the data listed. Ms. McConnell responded by stating that she could look into adding data on a county and district level. Amanda McAdams inquired about mediation rates and if they were available on the Report Card. Ms. McConnell advised that she is working on the data and how to best show it and that she should have that update in the next month or so.

3. Update: Education Bills & Performance Funding Calculator

Dr. Barrett introduced Dale Frost with the Governor's Office. Mr. Frost gave the Council a brief overview of certain Legislative education bills;

- SB1204-Charter schools applications
- SB1444-Performance funding
- HB2047-Pupil assessment
- HB2488-200 Day School Year
- HB2500-Teacher Evaluations

4. Update: ASU Presentation on the Arizona Ready-for-Rigor TIF Grant

Dr. Barrett introduced Virginia McElyea and Barnaby Wasson with Arizona State University (ASU) to present on the Arizona Ready-for-Rigor Project TIF3 Grant. Ms. McElyea offered a brief overview of the project and Mr. Wasson took the Council through a live look at the dashboard that is used by school district administrators. Chair Barrett asked what were ASU's biggest challenges to get a system like this in permanently place. Mr. Wasson advised that those challenges were in identifying data sources, the lack of data standardization, and performance linkages. Chair Barrett then stated that if the state had a standard student data system, ASU would be able to easily overlay their system on to the state system, but without that data system it is very difficult. Mr. Wasson agreed with that assessment.

5. Update: MCESA Presentation on the REIL TIF Grant

Dr. Barrett introduced Dr. Don Covey with the Maricopa County Education Service Agency (MCESA) to present on the MCESA REIL TIF Grant. Dr. Covey gave a brief review of the grant offering background on the project. Dr. Covey then introduced Laurie King, also with MCESA, who reviewed with the Council the portion of the REIL system that assists effective teaching. Ms. King introduced Kristine Morris with MCESA who discussed the portion of the REIL system that assists effective leading. Chair Barrett asked both MCESA and ASU when these dash boards are taken to a rural school without an IT department, what happens. Ms. Morris advised that in most cases the information is not utilized. Mr. Wasson answered that rural districts usually require on the ground attention and local training. Dr. Covey also advised that MCESA does offer a support system for these schools that need assistance. Ms. Morris finish by stating that MCESA and the State really needs a single source of truth for data.

6. Discussion: Alternate Funding Strategies for ADE SLDS

Supt. Huppenthal introduced Dr. Jennifer Johnson with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to facilitate the conversation on possible alternative funding for AELAS. Dr. Johnson asked for the Council's input on pros and cons to funding sources such as;

- General Fund/State Aid
- Foundations
- Schools
- Lease Purchase
- Other Options

Dr. Zaharis advised that he felt that the Council first needs to know where ADE is at with funding and see how each option may be used. Dr. Zaharis said that he felt that foundation funding is important and those schools, as the ultimate users, should also have a stake in funding this program. Dr. Zaharis also suggested that funding could become a public option with local buy-in such as a co-op. Eileen Klein advised that the Council may need to see a renewable funding source moving forward. Mr. Carter stated that rural schools and districts do not have the funding capacity to buy into this type of system. Mr. Carter said that this is a state wide issue and needs a state wide answer that comes out of the general fund. Dr. Zaharis stated that he did not think that ADE would be able to get the full funding from the State General Fund and that the Council would have to find this funding, since the data system is a priority and a necessary system for Arizona. Dr. Zaharis suggested a two prong system that would address separately the needs for large districts and small districts. Supt. Huppenthal advised that he feels that lease purchasing is a good idea since the State Legislature may not be willing to pay for a system that will not offer deliverables for another year or possibly longer. Chair Barrett stated that he would like to see a sense of solidarity among the education community that this is a necessary project, and then asked the Council how they may be able to get the whole community involved. Mr. Carter said that there is support for the concept, but the field does not see the viability of this concept. Mr. Carter further advised that once the community sees that the concept is viable then ADE will get the support. Dale Frost stated that he would like to hear from the rural and regional centers, as he believes that the data system is not being seen by rural schools as a priority. Dr. Zaharis stated that the Council is representative of the Governor and the State Education Board, and that the Council needs a single message that can then be taken out to the larger community. Dr. Zaharis also suggested a possible tiered funding system where as deliverables are set in stages and as certain goals are met, then additional funding would be made available. Chair Barrett suggested that the Council get a deeper look into the education community to see what their priorities are so that everyone can be on the same page for full community support. Ms. Klein then suggested that the Council may be able to break out that conversation to SIAS/student dashboards and the longer term ADE goals.

7. Council Comments

Chair Barrett reviewed agenda topics for the April 3rd meeting;

- NAU Common Core Implementation
- MCCD Metrics by Dr. Glasper
- AHEEC – Common Core and Postsecondary collaboration
- Data system

8. Public Comments

There were no requests from the public to address the Council.

9. Adjourn

With no further business before the Council, Diane McCarthy motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Colleen Niccum and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.